

**Office of Public Health Bioterrorism Preparedness and Emergency Response**  
**Request for Proposals for Emergency Response Exercises**  
**Proposer's Conference June 9<sup>th</sup>, 2004**  
**Response to Proposer's Inquiries**

1. Question: Are there any documents that may have significant bearing on the program plan, timetable or location of exercises?

Answer: No. There are no other documents that would dictate exercise planning, timelines, location of exercises.

2. Question: Can we submit questions or proposal by electronic mail?

Answer: No. All questions and proposals must be submitted by mail to the mailing address provided in the RFP document.

3. Question: Will there be an outbrief session to debrief losing bidders on why their bid was not chosen?

Answer: No. There will not be an outbrief conference for losing bidders. All proposals will become public record and can be reviewed by bidders after award of contract.

4. Question: Who will be on the evaluation team awarding proposal?

Answer: The evaluation team will consist of 1 Regional Administrator, 1 Medical Director, 3 Public Health Emergency Response Coordinators, 1 Epidemiologist, 1 Technical Support person, Grant Manager and Director of the Bioterrorism Program.

5. Question: Do we anticipate additional items that may be required for training follow-up in regions that may not have received the same level of education and training?

Answer: All OPH regions are on the same level as all have been provided the same education and training. Therefore no additional items for training follow-up is anticipated.

6. Question: Is there a possibility for a 3<sup>rd</sup> year contract for drills if funding is available?

Answer: At this time there is no plan for a third year contract.

7. Question: Is there a limit as to how much money OPH is willing to spend on the contract?

Answer: Although OPH does have a range that the awarded proposal is expected to fall within, a limit has not been set.

8. Question: Is there a low cost threshold for evaluating proposals?

Answer: No there is not a low cost threshold. Bidders are scored on overall proposal. If the proposal shows that the bidder is not knowledgeable, they would receive low marks on other areas which would offset any low bid cost.

9. Question: Does not being at the Proposer's Conference preclude you from submitting a proposal?

Answer: No. Attendance at the Proposer's Conference is not mandatory in order to submit a proposal.

10. Question: Is it OPH's intent to use one of the 6 primary BT agent for all drills?

Answer: No. Each region will decide on which of the 6 BT agents to test for the exercise. This will be determined when the awarded contractor meets with each region.

11. Question: Are there mandatory resources or tools from Center for Disease Control that is expected to be utilized?

Answer: Yes. Contractor would build exercise plans utilizing the agent's standardized release model from CDC that OPH Epidemiology uses. Contractor's internal assets should not be used.

12. Question: Is food for participants in drills and accommodations for meeting space provided by contractor?

Answer: No. OPH regional staff will be responsible for securing location and providing meals and refreshments to participants at drills.